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DISPATCH NO. MGK-A-23887

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CLASSIFICATION

TO : Chief, Foreign Division M

DATE: 2 November 1950

FROM : Chief of Station, Karlsruhe *C (K)*

SUBJECT *(GENERAL)* - OPERATIONAL

*(SPECIFIC)* - KIBITZ 16

REFERENCE: MGK-A-23888

1. Interest in Subject recruit came in the Spring of 1949 while [ ] was still living at the Esslingen address of the then KINGDOM II house which was but a short distance down the street from Subject's home address. This was in the earlier KIBITZ stages when we were scratching every German's back in an effort to obtain entree to any and all German social circles in search of likely prospects as yet unviolated by contact with the Amis. Subject then was quite outstanding for his hustling past our house on his way to and from the city in the manner of a man with a purpose and in great contrast to the yet too many postwar Germans who seemed to wander aimlessly through the streets.

2. After the KINGDOM II move to Ludwigsburg we continued occasional street encounters in the vicinity of Subject's Rathaus Platz office where the old nodding acquaintance matured to more amiable exchanges and finally coffee hours, lunches, and evening visits to his home. During this developing period he revealed a background somewhat typical of his class with studies at the universities in Tuebingen, Munich, and Berlin. He was quite active in sports and earned student beer money over and above his allowance by giving ski instructions at the Alpine resorts. In addition, he was quite active in fencing. His participation in the latter sport gives us an insight to the man's character in that the contests as engaged in by students of that era were far different from the refined versions we Americans know. The German technique employed a double-edged sword from the awkward position of the padded sword arm hooked under the chin and around the head from where the sword was wielded in a cutting or chopping motion against the opponent's unprotected face and head. In consequence it was less a matter of the art of attack as it was the fortitude to stand within the squared off area and take it. The winner was declared so by the medical attendant who disqualified the vanquished from further punishment, or by the judge if he detected so much as the slightest flinch in the face of the attack from which there was little room for retreat. Our Subject reports participating in 14 such contests (attested to by some nine scars of 150 stitches in his battered head) of which he lost only one match. That for what was judged as flinching which he denies as being merely a case of sagging under a heavy blow. Nonetheless, he bears the marks of a remarkable man.

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3. We knew little of his military career except for anecdotes which indicated he started service as an enlisted man and wound up a lieutenant colonel in the Waffen SS, and that he has a partial paralysis of the left hand from a wound for which he was hospitalized in Hungary. However, name checks revealed he was really an ardent supporter of the Fuehrer, Volk und Vaterland, as follows: SA from 19 July 1933 to 30 June 1936; SS (#293565) 1 July 1936; SS Allgemeine 16 Nov 1936; Allgemeine SS Sturmabteilung 1-70 Standarte; Allgemeine SS Sturmabteilung 1-63; Standarte Oberabschnitt South East, rank of Rottenfuehrer; attended SS Junker Schule Braunschweig in 1940; Waffen SS Gebirgs Jaeger Bn Prinz Eugen 42; Waffen SS Infantry Ersatz Bn East 42; Waffen SS Infantry Regt #10/1242; Waffen SS rank of Hauptsturmfuehrer since 21 June 1944. After the "capitulation" he was incarcerated in Augsburg, Dachau and Ludwigsburg. The period of internment and trial was approximately two years and in the Summer of 1947 he was returned to his wife of 1938 and their two children in Esslingen. In reporting to the local labor office for work he was given further denazification treatment by assignment to one of the details cleaning out cesspools badly neglected since the latter war years. To rub it in, he was assigned to the detail which was working in his own neighborhood. This assignment lasted some 6 months, until the end of 1947.

4. The man whom we noticed in the following year was this humbled but determined lawyer who, after refreshing his law studies by working as a junior member of a downtown firm was now busy building up his private practise to where it is today with an assistant, three stenographers working in relays, and the recent DM 40,000 payment on a DM 100,000 commercial property, the downstairs of which is to be larger office space and the upstairs ten apartments to let.

5. Progress in recruiting was by way of exploratory talks over coffee in which, in addition to his background, he showed a strong pro-Americanism and by and large looked very much like the caliber of man we badly need--someone of military or executive ability who could take a larger responsibility in the KIBITZ activity and who could, for example, in the event of [ ]'s premature departure from Germany, take over certain areas or phases now under development and finish the job.

6. However, when one of the talks of November 1949 dwelled on the possible reaction of West Germans should they be occupied as is East Germany, we were discouraged to hear his opinion that Germans would be unlikely to rise up against such an occupation and those who did would be immediately smothered in the police state. We prudently pulled in our horns at this development but could not reconcile its inconsistency with the man's character and nationalism as attested to by his background. So the contact was continued and as later relations dictated we brought up the matter again. This time we were less abstract, basing our approach on what we considered his conservatism. In the often used tone of asking his opinion or help on matters German strange to an American, he was told that among [ ]'s zone-wide German acquaintances there is starting an organization preparing to resist any possible Communist domination and that [ ] had been asked to help in organization and, for their security, liaison between the various units. But remembering Subject's opinions of long ago, [ ] felt they might be doomed without proper restraining

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leadership and that what they sorely needed were a few stable level-headed men such as he to take some command. Subject needed but a few moments to compose his answer. In fact, he had already given some consideration to what his responsibilities would be under the adversities of a Communist occupation, and that he had decided he did not want to assume a leadership again; he had already had his lesson in that and now felt he could pledge his loyalty for only a minor role.

7. We accepted this as more reasonable than modest, and though it did not measure up to our hopes for a principal personality we do know him to be still a leader among men (now president of the Esslingen Sporting Club) and he certainly could be depended upon to come through in time of need. Thus the matter was permitted to rest in the status of a great potential who could not be pushed but whom we could well allow to find his own level of operation.

8. In the meantime we proceeded with his conditioning by converting our social visits to clandestine meetings in out of the way restaurants, arranged a double-talk code for telephone conversations, etc., and prepared to sit things out while the whole matter jelled. In this we had not long to wait: the legal section of the Land Commissioner's Office asked him to defend three Esslingen Communist Youth members who are to be tried for posting anti-American propaganda posters in and around Esslingen. This unexpected turn created an entire evolution in the planning for Subject in that it might prove an opportunity to ingratiate himself with the communist elements (a few of the party members have already stopped to chat with him, so apparently he is as well acceptable to them as counsel for the youths) and thus enhance his stayability; it almost obviates his acceptance to any other KIRITZ elements.

9. Planning now proceeds in gear with his new status and as outlined to him, he is to set himself up as an independent operator, recruiting his own communications man. For this he offered his brother-in-law, who is a former military radio man and whom Subject describes as a trustworthy "dolt." Arrangements were made for [ ] to have a look at this brother-in-law ([ ] was invited over to a family gathering to show his color slide pictures), and the brother-in-law appears possible for the job. In the meantime, Subject had just taken a weekend trip into the mountains to look for a hunting lodge of sorts to purchase as a safe retreat for his family, and probably, as a base for transmitting.

10. Thus, while we can hardly claim credit for planning it that way, we have the makings of a tight little stay-behind unit by a man who seems to know what he is doing and we like the way he goes about doing it.

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~~$$\frac{32}{32} \cdot \frac{1}{1} = \frac{25}{25} \cdot \frac{1}{1}$$~~